

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference W1784-000000	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/JP2004/011840	International filing date (day/month/year) 18.08.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 22.08.2003	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC GO9B29/00			
Applicant HITACHI, LTD.			

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets, including this cover sheet.
3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:
 - a. (*sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau*) a total of 2 sheets, as follows:
 - sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).
 - sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.
 - b. (*sent to the International Bureau only*) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).
4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/011840

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- This report is based on translations from the original language into the following _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
 - international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):
- the international application as originally filed/furnished
- the description:
pages 1-21 as originally filed/furnished
pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- the claims:
nos. _____ as originally filed/furnished
nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
nos.* 1-12 received by this Authority on 16.03.2005
nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- the drawings:
sheets Fig. 1-15 as originally filed/furnished
sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- the description, pages _____
 - the claims, nos. _____
 - the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 - the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
 - any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____
4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- the description, pages _____
 - the claims, nos. _____
 - the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 - the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
 - any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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International application No.	PCT/JP2004/011840
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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
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1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims <u>1-12</u>	YES
	Claims _____	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims <u>1-12</u>	YES
	Claims _____	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-12</u>	YES
	Claims _____	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Document 1: JP 2000-298029 A (Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation), 24 October 2000

Document 2: JP 2001-041765 A (Nippon Micron Kabushiki Kaisha), 16 February 2001

Document 3: Noboru Babaguchi et al., "Keiri Rikai Shien no Tame no Ryakuchizu to sono Annaibun no Sakusei System", The Transactions of the Institute of Electronics, Information and Communication Engineers, The Institute of Electronics, Information and Communication Engineers, 25 March 1997, Vol. J80-D-II, No. 3, pages 791 to 800

Document 4: JP 2000-292190 A (Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.), 20 October 2000

Document 5: JP 1-161111 A (Mitsubishi Electric Corporation), 23 June 1989

The invention set forth in claims 1 to 12 is not disclosed in any of the documents cited in the international search report, and would not be obvious to a person skilled in the art.